

CONTRACTING ENLISTED FORCE CAREER PATH*

RANK/ GRADE	POSITION	SKILL LEVEL	PURCHASING APDP 1,2,3	CONTRACTING APDP 1,2,3	CONTRACTING OFFICER ELIGIBLE
AB/E-1	Student Purchasing Agent (Apprentice)	1-3	0-1	N/A	Micropurchases
Amn/E-2	Purchasing Agent (Apprentice)	3	1	N/A	Micropurchases
A1C/E-3	Purchasing Agent (Apprentice)	3	2	N/A	Micropurchases
SrA/E-4	Purchasing Agent/ Contract Specialist (Journeyman)	5	2-3	1	Micropurchases
SSgt/E-5	Contract Specialist (Craftsman)	5-7	N/A	1-2	Yes -Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT)
TSgt/E-6	Contract Specialist (Craftsman)	7	N/A	1-2	Yes - > SAT
MSgt/E-7	Contract Specialist (Craftsman) Superintendent/ First Sergeant	7	N/A	1-2	Yes - > SAT
SMSgt/E-8	Contract Specialist (Superintendent) Superintendent/ First Sergeant	9	N/A	2	Yes - > SAT
CMSgt/E-9	Superintendent/ First Sergeant/ MAJCOM Supt/ Chief, Contracting Enlisted Policy	CEM	N/A	2-3	Yes - > SAT

* Information provided identifies the path of the "typical" contracting airman and is not intended to be restrictive in any form.

WEAR OF OCCUPATIONAL BADGES *
(Acquisition and Financial Management)

Basic badge	After completion of initial skill training
Senior badge	After award of 7-skill level
Master badge	MSgt or above with 5 years in Contracting from award of the 7-skill level

* IAW AFI 36-2923

CONTRACTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING PATH

BASIC MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL	MANDATORY		
APPRENTICE TECHNICAL SCHOOL - 3-Skill Level	MANDATORY		
UPGRADE TO JOURNEYMAN - 5 Skill Level <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete three months duty position/apprentice experience before beginning journeyman training.- Minimum 12 months on-the-job training.- Complete 5-Level CDC's.- Sew-on SrA for award of the 5-skill level.			
AIRMAN LEADERSHIP SCHOOL (ALS) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Must be a SrA with 48 months time in service or be a SSgt selectee.- Resident graduation is a prerequisite for Ssgt sew-on. *			
TRAINER - <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ALS graduate.- Possess the same AFSC at a higher skill level than the trainee, and be certified to train others.- Must attend formal OJT Trainer Training and appointed by Commander.			
UPGRADE TO CRAFTSMAN - 7-Skill Level <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Minimum rank of SSgt.- 18 months OJT (12 months if retrainee and possessed 7-skill level in prior AFSC).- Attendance at formal 7-level school.- Must be 7-level to sew on TSgt.			
CERTIFIER - <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Possess at least a 7-skill level in the same AFSC, if possible but not required.- Attend formal OJT Certifier Course and appointed by Commander.- Be a person other than the trainer.			
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY (NCOA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Must be a TSgt or TSgt selectee.- Resident graduation is a prerequisite for MSgt sew-on. *			
USAF SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY (SNCOA) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Must be a SMSgt or MSgt.- SNCOA correspondence course is available for MSgts.- Resident graduation is a prerequisite for CMSgt sew-on. *			
UPGRADE TO SUPERINTENDENT - 9 Skill Level <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Minimum rank of SMSgt.- Must be resident graduate of SNCOA.*			
* Active duty only.			
CONTRACTING AVERAGE SEW-ON TIME			
RANK	EARLIEST	AVERAGE	HYT
SrA	28 Months	36 Months	10 Years
SSgt	3.0 Years	6.55 Years	20 Years
TSgt	5.0 Years	13.67 Years	20 Years
MSgt	8.0 Years	15.62 Years	24 Years
SMSgt	11 Years	18.66 Years	26 Years
CMSgt	14 Years	20.92 Years	30 Years